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day. Suppose I shall have full particulars in my next letters from home but, in the meantime, am writing Joan and sending a card to Mary & Bill.

I saw a London Advertiser and it is amusing to read therein that my Battery was in reserve and that the 1st Battalion bore the brunt of the fighting. The reverse is, of course the case, my Battery was in it from the first minute, being the most forward battery in the salient, and is still at it while the 1st Battalion was in reserve at first, did not come up until the second or third day and was sent back two or three weeks ago.

The RFA battery which is to relieve us is to come into the position tonight at our departure

Ypres
17 May 1915

Dear Alice
It is drizzling outside and as it looks like an all days rain I am trying to get some letters written. Our dug outs were flooded out but fortunately the French ponies who were occupying the remains of a nearby farm house moved out last night and I have moved in. Fortunately I had a supply of chloride of lime and creolin and was thus able to make the place habitable. The French are dirty creatures, leave their cards everywhere and do not seem to mind living in indescribable filth.

I had a letter from George Babbins the other day and he mentioned that Mrs. Labatt and Miss Edmund had both died the same

should take place in a day or so.
I shall not be sorry as this is
still a hot corner, only Thursday
last the Germans put one of my
guns out of action blowing the
wheels shield and fittings off
also damaging the ammunition
wagon. The gun was a wreck but
I sent it to ordnance after dark
and hope they can, in time,
make something of it.

As I have said before the
mud and ourselves are the
only Canadians left near Ypres.
I don't know just where the
rest of the division has gone
but they are being given a
chance to re-organize somewhere
in rear of the firing line. Last
night the French were to
attack and we fired nearly
four hundred rounds to support

them. I hear they remained in
their trenches and did not
attack at all which is something
they have done several times
lately. They are certainly not
making a good showing but
perhaps when they have one
or two really big successes they
will put a little more life
into the work.

Chester Mathewson and
at least one of the Littles
(other than Bert) should have
volunteered and come over for
the war. Of course it is not
right to criticize but a lot
of people should be doing more
than they are. This war is
really only starting and the
sooner such people realize this
the better.
So Ted Harris has been

just how we are working and then goes back to report this knowledge to the new arrivals.

In a way it serves Douglas Yarker right that Redmond is no longer resting her. Mrs. Yarker ought to have had more sense than to allow the thing to go on. I often said as much when at home but then of course, it is not my business and does not matter a jot to yours truly.

Young Cronyn was only slightly wounded and will lose me of his minor toes, I am told. The oddest thing I heard of was the case of young Ryerson of our brigade. When bringing up ammunition he noticed an officer lying near the road.

land up again with a new trouble. I am not surprised at it nor am I surprised that they give it a new name this time.

Frank But is still in England and, I am told, is not clamoring to get over here. He believes in safety first and always has I think. I hear he is in the Eddie Mills class now as regards returning to London and am not surprised. He has been lacerated for years and always was a fair flusher of the worst kind.

I had a letter from Eddie last week. He is now Gunnery instructor to the Canadian Artillery at Charncliffe. He expects to get out here for a few weeks so as to know

He dismounted and turned the
body over to find that it
was that of his brother in
the infantry. Just at this
moment he was hit himself
but not seriously, I am glad
to say.

I suppose Sir Adam will
be over here to inspect the
remount depots. As far as I
know there are none closer to
the firing line than the
main sea ports. I suppose that
the child is better as Lady
Beck would not be coming
over too.

Tell mother that Elaine
forwarded her joint letter
very promptly also wrote
herself. The papers are wrong
in speaking of the Canadians
being at Hill 60. Some of the

division were anywhere near there,
all our fighting taking place
to the north and east of
Hill 60. I have written pretty
fully of all details and can
only caution you against
believing anything in the
papers unless it is an official
bit of news from either
London or Ottawa. Our reps
of papers seize on anything
and use their imagination and
most of the letters I read
from men at the front
are largely lies and
exaggerations even those of
people who ought to know
better.

Am glad that father is
again playing golf and hope
he will make a point of
playing at least a couple of

English regiment but would not
be surprised. The R. C. Dragoons
(his regiment) & Strathern's Horse
are said to be out here now
as infantry and are as sore
as pups about it they say.

I see in the Advertiser of
Apr. 23rd an interview with two men
Randall & Wood "just returned from
France"; the former claiming to be
a sergeant in the motor transport
corps. These men were never near
France, Randall was a gunner in
my battery and injured his foot
on board ship en route to England
from Canada last October. He has
no right to sergeant's stripes and
could be imprisoned for wearing
them if anybody wanted to
prosecute. I merely mention this
as a good example of the ratten
yarns that our papers print

times each week, all summer.
I'll him I had a nice letter
from Arthur Leonard and
have sent him a few lines
also a letter to Geo. Evans as
he seems to evince a little
interest.

We had a few days here
that were very hot but have
now gone back to the old
reliable rainy day which became
so familiar to us in England
last winter. Campbell Beebe
had charge of his regiment for
some time and did rather
well (as Chester Butler said)
because he had sense enough
to leave the direction of things
in the hands of those who
knew what they were doing. I
had not heard about Douglas
Young getting command of an

and that everyone apparently reads
as gospel.

If Ibb brings Psi away with
him I want you to get another
Airedale pup without delay. There
is a man at the asylum Lander
by name who breeds them and
I think there is another breeder
at St. Thomas. Tell Father to
draw a cheque against my
account to pay for the pup
and get busy training him. I
shall be sending some money
home shortly and my savings
are at your disposal just as
they were for Ibb should
you need to draw on them.

I wish you could hear
the noise the German shells
are making just near us when
they burst as they are shelling
us just now. Only hear the shot

now would seem insignificant
beside it. Every time they get
one about 3 or 400 yds off
the house shrapnel so much that
a few tiles usually slide off
the roof. For all the noise
however they dont do very
much damage.

Will close now with
best love to all
yours affly
Wood.

P.S. Perhaps it would not
be a bad plan to get the
pup whether Psi enters or not.

WJL

I enclose a couple of
recent operation orders.